

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage Park Foundation****Federal Tax ID: 412205907****Project Title:****Project Type:** Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

# Anchorage Park Foundation - Alaska Long Trail Urban Braid -- Anchorage Moose Loop

**State Funding Requested: \$800,000****House District:** Anchorage Areawide (12-28)

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Trail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements:  
Erosion Control, Repaving and Wayfinding

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$800,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2023 State Funding Request:	(\$800,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

One important urban braid of the Alaska Long Trail will pass through the Anchorage Bowl, taking advantage of the Anchorage "Moose Loop". Two segments of the Moose Loop -- the Coastal Trail on the south and west, and Ship Creek Trail on the north -- are planned as designated elements of the braided Long Trail system. These connections help make downtown Anchorage a Long Trail starting and stopping point. Other portions of the 33-mile Moose Loop provide key Long Trail "onramps", improving access for neighborhoods and visitors throughout the Anchorage Bowl. Funding through this project will provide for safer and more enjoyable connectivity within Anchorage and to communities to the north and south, to benefit residents, visitors and businesses.

Anchorage's "destination trail" for residents and visitors is the 33-mile-long MOOSE LOOP - the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail, Campbell Creek Trail, Lanie Fleischer Chester Creek trail, and Ship Creek trail. The Coastal Trail (10 miles), starts downtown along Cook Inlet, heading west and south, with "Moose Ears" at mile 5 and its nose at mile 10. The hump of the Moose heads east from downtown along the Ship Creek Trail (2.5 miles) (which connects to an unfinished trail to Eagle River). The Chester Creek Trail (7.5 miles), is the spine, starting at Westchester Lagoon and connecting to the University/Medical District (UMED). The Campbell Creek Trail (7.5 miles) is the body, linking the UMED to the South Anchorage shopping district. These trails connect to each other through city streets and through the three largest parks: Russian Jack, Far North Bicentennial and Kincaid.

Safety Improvements: Erosion control is needed in multiple sections of the Moose Loop, particularly the Coastal Trail. Work is happening now to connect the Coastal Trail to Ship Creek, which connects to the Glenn Highway Trail.

Wayfinding: For experienced cyclists, the MOOSE LOOP can be enjoyed in its current form, but wayfinding signs and tools

are needed for new users to navigate to the Alaska Long Trail. Half-mile marker signs with emergency locators were installed in 2019. A suite of wayfinding and interpretive signs has been developed and approved, awaiting funding.

**Project Timeline:**

2022 and 2023

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Municipality of Anchorage

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No